

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

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AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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STATE FOR CU/EE, EUR/SOV

USIA FOR IEU, IBS, ICS

LENINGRAD FOR P&C

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJ: VISIT: AMSPECIALIST CHARLES MILL

REF: MOSCOW 12848

SUMMARY: MILL VISIT SEPT 2-SEPT 12 MOSCOW AND LENINGRAD MOST SUCCESSFUL IN PROGRAM AREA OUTLINED REFTEL PARA TWO WITH IMPORTANT BYPRODUCT BEING INCREASED UNDERSTANDING SCOPE AND ROLE USSR COPYRIGHT AND PUBLISHING SCENE AND POSSIBLE WAYS AMERICAN BUSINESS PRESS (ABP) CAN BE HELPFUL CLARIFYING SOVIET SYSTEM TO SPECIALIZED US MAGAZINES. MILL WELL RECEIVED ON PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL BASIS. DIRECT REQUEST BY UNION OF JOURNALISTS, MOSCOW, TO ABP FOR POSSIBLE MANAGEMENT OF PRIVATE TOUR SOVIET TRADE MAGAZINE SPECIALISTS TO USA AND SUBSEQUENT USSR VISIT OF AMERICAN SPECIALISTS ON RECIPROCAL BASIS WAS PRESENTED TO MILL. THIS A SURPRISING REQUEST IN LIGHT SHORT CONTACT BETWEEN THESE TWO ORGANIZATIONS BUT EXPRESSES KEEN DESIRE SOVIETS HAVE IN BROADENING CONTACTS AND EXCHANGES IN IMPORTANT FIELD OF BUSINESS INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND PUBLISHING. END SUMMARY.

1. SEE REFTEL FOR EVENTS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE FOR LENINGRAD.

WHILE IN LENINGRAD, MILL DELIVERED TALK TO 50-60 JOURNALISTS

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AT LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA, LECTURED TO 40 STUDENTS AND PROFESSORS

AT FACULTY OF JOURNALISM, LENINGRAD STATE UNIVERSITY AND VISITED THE OFFICES OF LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA. MILL'S VISIT, COVERED BY LENINGRAD TASS NEWS AGENCY, WAS AIRED ON MORNING NEWS BROADCAST AND CARRIED IN THREE LOCAL DAILIES. THIS COVERAGE CONSIDERED UNUSUAL AND PROBABLY RELATED TO EARLIER PRESS CONFERENCE SCREENING OF EXCELLENT AGENCY-PRODUCED VTR ON MILL AND ABP.

2. AFTER RETURN FROM LENINGRAD, OFFICIAL MEETINGS IN MOSCOW INCLUDED THE STATE COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ALL UNION COPYRIGHT AGENCY AND STATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLISHING, PRINTING AND BOOK TRADE. ALL THREE OF THESE MEETINGS MOST INFORMATIVE BOTH DIRECTIONS AND PARTICULARLY HELPFUL IN OUTLINING ROLE OF EACH COMMITTEE TO MILL AND EMBASSY ESCORT OFFICER. MEETINGS ALSO CLARIFIED INTERACTION BETWEEN THESE ORGANIZATIONS AND GENUINE DESIRE TO INCREASE FLOW OF INFORMATION AND PERSONAL CONTACTS WITH US SPECIALISTS. IN CASE OF COPYRIGHT AGENCY WHICH HAD SIX PEOPLE PRESENT AT MEETING, YURI F. ZHAROV, VICE-CHAIRMAN, SAID, "....ON THE WHOLE, OUR RELATIONS WITH THE USA ARE DEVELOPING QUITE SUCCESSFULLY AND WE ARE DOING ALL WE CAN TO WIDEN CULTURAL TIES AND RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES." SOVIETS OF COURSE ARE INTERESTED IN PROMOTING KNOWLEDGE OF SOVIET TRADE OPPORTUNITIES IN US BUT INFORMATION FLOW IS TWO-WAY STREET AND MILL SEES SUBSTANTIAL US INTEREST IN FURTHER CONTACTS.

3. LECTURE REQUESTED BY VNESHTOREKLAMA VICE PRESIDENT AND EDITOR-IN-CHIEF SOVIET EXPORT, V.G. SIZONENKO WAS ENTHUSIASTICALLY RECEIVED BY 45 PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISTS AND OFFICIALS. THE EXTENDED QUESTION-ANSWER SESSION FOCUSED ON PROFESSIONAL ASPECTS OF PUBLISHING.

4. FRIDAY LUNCHEON IN HONOR OF MR. AND MRS. MILL WAS HELD IN PRIVATE DINING HALL OF UNION OF JOURNALISTS WITH NO OTHER GUESTS. MR. A. LOSEV AND MR. A. RYZHNIKOV OF THE UNION WERE HOSTS. (REFTEL, PARA 3, SECTION A.). DURING COURSE OF FRIENDLY CONVERSATION, MR. LOSEV PROPOSED AN EXCHANGE OF SOVIET-US TRADE JOURNAL SPECIALISTS ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL, RECIPROCAL BASIS. HE PROPOSED THAT DELEGATES ARRANGE AIRFARE PAYMENT AND HOST ORGANIZATION COVER INCOUNTRY EXPENSES. MR. MILL AGREED TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF ABP SPONSORSHIP BUT MADE NO COMMITMENTS.

5. REACTION TO MILL VISIT IN ALL GROUP AND PRIVATE MEETINGS ONE OF GREAT PROFESSIONAL INTEREST FOR WIDENING FUTURE CONTACTS. CONSIDERABLE OFFICIAL ATTENTION WAS PAID TO HIS VISIT AND MOST OFFICIALS WERE IMPRESSED BY SCOPE OF ABP IMPORTANCE IN US BUSINESS FIELD. OVER A DOZEN SPECIFIC REQUESTS WERE MADE OF

MILL FOR POSSIBLE FOLLOW-UP AFTER VISIT.

6. INITIAL CAUTIOUS ATTITUDE TOWARD MILL EVAPORATED WHEN IMPORTANCE OF ABP AND MILL'S PROFESSIONALISM MADE CLEAR. MILL CERTAINLY A THOROUGH PROFESSIONAL AND HE LEFT FAVORABLE IMPRESSION WITH HIS CONTACTS AND DEPARTED WITH MUCH CLEAKER PICUTURE OF SOVIET OPERATION IN PUBLISHING, EDITORIAL AND COPYRIGHT FIELDS.

7. MILL'S PERSONAL CHARM ALSO HELPFUL IN CREATING RAPORT WITH SOVIETS AND FUTURE CONTACTS BETWEEN MILL AND INDIVIDUALS HERE SHOULD DEVELOP AS RESULT OF EXCELLENT VISIT.

8. OM WITH ADDITIONAL FOLLOW-UP INFORMATION AND SUGGESTIONS FOLLOWS.

9. ACTION REQUESTED: DEVELOPMENT OF FURTHER INFORMATION EXCHANGES OF THIS TYPE SUPPORTS EMBASSY POST-CSCE OBJECTIVES AND MIGHT FIT INTO CU DESIRE TO ARRANGE FOR RELIABLE PRIVATELY-ADMINISTERED GRANT PROGRAMS. SUGGEST CU/EE CONSIDER GRANT TO ABP TO CARRY OUT FIRST ROUND OF SUCH AN EXCHANGE TO DETERMINE EXTENT OF LONGER-RANGE POSSIBILITIES. MILL WILL CALL RICHMOND SHORTLY AFTER RETURN. CONCEPT HAS BEEN DISCUSSED WITH HIM IN GENERAL TERMS WITHOUT ANY IMPLIED COMMITMENT. MILL TENTATIVELY INTERESTED BUT MUST ALSO EXPLORE SUPPORT FROM HIS ORGANIZATION.

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